

Application No. 10/695,429
Amendment Dated: September 1, 2011
Reply to Office Action of: July 14, 2011

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 40-42 and 44 are currently pending in this application. Claims 1-18 and 30-32 stand withdrawn. Claims 19-29, 33-39, 43 and 45-47 are cancelled. Claim 40 has been amended. Entry of this amendment for the purpose of appeal is respectfully requested.

Claims Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §112

The Examiner has rejected claims 40-42 and 44 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The Examiner is of the opinion that the phrase "without the cutting blade being disconnected from the hub and without the hub being disconnected from the blade guard" in claim 40 is not supported by the original disclosure.

Applicant submits that the subject language is inherent in the original description of the embodiments described in the present application and therefore, is in compliance with 35 U.S.C. §112. However, this language is being canceled from the claim to reduce the issues on appeal.

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CONCLUSION

As explicitly stated In 37 CFR §1.116, an amendment filed after a Final Rejection and presenting the rejected claims in better form for consideration of the appeal may be admitted. As the requested amendment to the claims reduces the issues on appeal, such amendment satisfies this requirement and entry of this amendment for the purpose of appeal is respectfully requested.

Respectfully Submitted,

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